

1. **(Previously Amended)** A method for dynamically assigning a network region to a network endpoint, comprising:

receiving a request for a network address from a network endpoint;

determining the network address for the network endpoint;

assigning a network region to the network endpoint based on the determined network address; and

communicating the network address and a network location parameter specifying the network region to the network endpoint.

2. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the network address is an Internet protocol (IP) address;

the network endpoint is an IP phone; and

the network endpoint communicates packet data comprising voice information using transport control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

3. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the network address comprises:

determining a network path along which the request is communicated; and

determining the network address based on the network path.

4. **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the network region comprises:

determining a subnet address portion of the network address; and

determining the network region based on the subnet address portion.

5.       **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein determining the network region comprises:

determining a priority level associated with the network endpoint; and  
determining the network region based on the priority level.

6.       **(Original)** The method of Claim 1, wherein the network location parameter comprises time-length-value (TLV) data.

7.       **(Previously Amended)** A server, comprising:  
an interface operable to receive a request for a network address from a network endpoint;  
a memory operable to store a data structure relating a plurality of network addresses to a plurality of network regions; and  
a processor operable to determine a network address and to assign a network region based on the determined network address and the memory, the processor further operable to construct a response to the request for communication to the network endpoint using the interface, the response comprising the network address for the network endpoint and a network location parameter specifying the network region.

8.       **(Original)** The server of Claim 7, wherein:  
the network address is an Internet protocol (IP) address;  
the network endpoint is an IP phone; and  
the network endpoint communicates packet data comprising voice information using transport control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

9.       **(Original)** The server of Claim 7, wherein the processor is further operable to determine the network address for the network endpoint based on a network path along which the request is communicated.

10. **(Original)** The server of Claim 7, wherein the network region is determined based on a subnet address portion of the network address.

11. **(Original)** The server of Claim 7, wherein the data structure further relates the network region to a priority level associated with the network endpoint.

12. **(Original)** The server of Claim 7, wherein the network location parameter comprises time-length-value (TLV) data.

13. **(Previously Amended)** Logic embodied in a computer-readable medium operable to cause a server to perform the following steps:

receiving a request for a network address from a network endpoint;

determining the network address for the network endpoint;

assigning a network region to the network endpoint based on the determined network address; and

communicating the network address and a network location parameter specifying the network region to the network endpoint.

14. **(Original)** The logic of Claim 13, wherein determining the network address comprises:

determining a network path along which the request is communicated; and

determining the network address based on the network path.

15. **(Original)** The logic of Claim 13, wherein determining the network region comprises:

determining a subnet address portion of the network address; and

determining the network region based on the subnet address portion.

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.  
062891.0620

SERIAL NO.  
10/050,228

5

16. **(Original)** The logic of Claim 13, wherein determining the network region comprises:

determining a priority level associated with the network endpoint; and  
determining the network region based on the priority level.

17. **(Previously Amended)** A call manager, comprising:

an interface operable to receive a call request from a network endpoint, the call request comprising a call destination;

a memory operable to store a data structure relating a plurality of network addresses to a plurality of network regions; and

a processor operable to perform the steps of:

determining an originating network address of the network endpoint;

determining an originating network region based on the originating network address of the network endpoint;

determining a destination network address of the call destination;

assigning a destination network region to the network endpoint based on the destination network address for the call destination;

selecting a codec based on the originating network region and the destination network region; and

communicating a response indicating the selected codec to the network endpoint using the interface.

18. **(Original)** The call manager of Claim 17, wherein the step of determining the originating network region of the network endpoint further comprises:

determining a subnet address portion of the network address; and

determining the originating network region based on the subnet address portion.

19. **(Original)** The call manager of Claim 17, wherein:

the network address is an IP address;

the network endpoint is an IP phone; and

the network endpoint communicates packet data comprising voice information using transport control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

20. **(Original)** The call manager of Claim 17, wherein selecting the codec comprises:  
determining an available bandwidth of a network connection between the originating  
network region and the destination network region; and  
selecting the codec based on the available bandwidth.

21. **(Original)** The call manager of Claim 20, wherein selecting the codec further  
comprises:

determining a priority level associated with the network endpoint; and  
selecting the codec based on the priority level.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A network endpoint, comprising:  
an interface operable to couple the network endpoint to a network; and  
a processor operable to:  
detect that the interface is coupled to a network at a network location;  
communicate a request for a network address using the interface;  
receive, from the interface, the network address;  
~~receive assign~~ a network region to the network endpoint based on the received  
network address; and  
communicate via the interface a request to establish a communication between the  
network endpoint and a call destination; and  
use the network region to enable selection of a codec for the communication.

23. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein:

the network location comprises a first network location, the request for a network address comprises a first request, the network address comprises a first network address, the network region comprises a first network region, and the processor is further operable to:

detect that the interface is coupled to the network at a second network location;  
communicate a second request for a network address using the interface;  
receive a second network address from the interface; and  
determine a second network region for the network endpoint.

24. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein:

the network address is an IP address;

the network endpoint is an IP phone; and

the network endpoint communicates packet data comprising voice information using transport control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

25. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein the processor is further operable to use a priority level associated with the network endpoint to enable selection of the codec.

26. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein the processor determines the network region based on a network location parameter received from the interface.

27. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein the processor determines the network region based on a data structure relating a plurality of network addresses to a plurality of network regions.

28. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein:  
the network endpoint further comprises a memory operable to store a plurality of codecs;  
and  
the processor uses the network region to select one of the codecs.

29. **(Original)** The network endpoint of Claim 22, wherein the processor uses the network region to enable selection of a codec by communicating the network region to a call manager operable to select a codec based on the network region.

30. **(Previously Amended)** A method for dynamically assigning a network region to a network endpoint, comprising:  
detecting that a network endpoint is coupled to a network at a network location;  
communicating from the network endpoint a request for a network address;  
receiving a network address for the network endpoint;  
assigning a network region to the network endpoint based on the received network address;  
communicating a request for a communication between the network endpoint and a call destination; and  
using the network region to enable selection of a codec for the communication.

31. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein:  
the network address is an IP address;  
the network endpoint is an IP phone; and  
the network endpoint communicates packet data comprising voice information using transport control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

32. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein:

the network location comprises a first network location, the request for a network address comprises a first request, the network address comprises a first network address, the network region comprises a first network region, and the method further comprises:

detecting that the network endpoint is coupled to the network at a second network location;

communicating a second request for a network address;  
receiving a second network address; and  
determining a second network region for the network endpoint.

33. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein determining the network region for the network endpoint comprises:

receiving a network location parameter; and  
determining the network region based on the network location parameter.

34. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein determining the network region for the network endpoint comprises:

retrieving from memory a data structure relating a plurality of network address with a plurality of network regions; and

determining the network region of the network endpoint based on the network address using the data structure.

35. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein using the network region to enable selection of a codec comprises using the network region to select one of a plurality of codecs stored in a memory of the network endpoint.

36. **(Original)** The method of Claim 30, wherein using the network region to enable selection of a codec comprises communicating the network region to a call manager operable to select the codec for the communication.

37. **(Previously Amended)** Logic embodied in a computer-readable medium operable to perform the steps of:

detecting that a network endpoint is coupled to a network at a network location;  
communicating from the network endpoint a request for a network address;  
receiving a network address for the network endpoint;  
assigning a network region to the network endpoint based on the received network address;  
communicating a request for a communication between the network endpoint and a call destination; and  
using the network region to enable selection of a codec for the communication.

38. **(Original)** The logic of Claim 37, wherein determining the network region for the network endpoint comprises:

receiving a network location parameter; and  
determining the network region based on the network location parameter.

39. **(Original)** The logic of Claim 37, wherein determining the network region for the network endpoint comprises:

retrieving from memory a data structure relating a plurality of network address with a plurality of network regions; and  
determining the network region of the network endpoint based on the network address using the data structure.

40. **(Currently Amended)** A network endpoint, comprising:  
means for detecting that a network endpoint is coupled to a network at a network location;  
means for communicating from the network endpoint a request for a network address;  
means for receiving a network address for the network endpoint;  
means for ~~receiving~~ assigning a network region ~~for~~ to the network endpoint based on the received network address;  
means for communicating a request for a communication between the network endpoint and a call destination; and  
means for using the network region to enable selection of a codec for the communication.